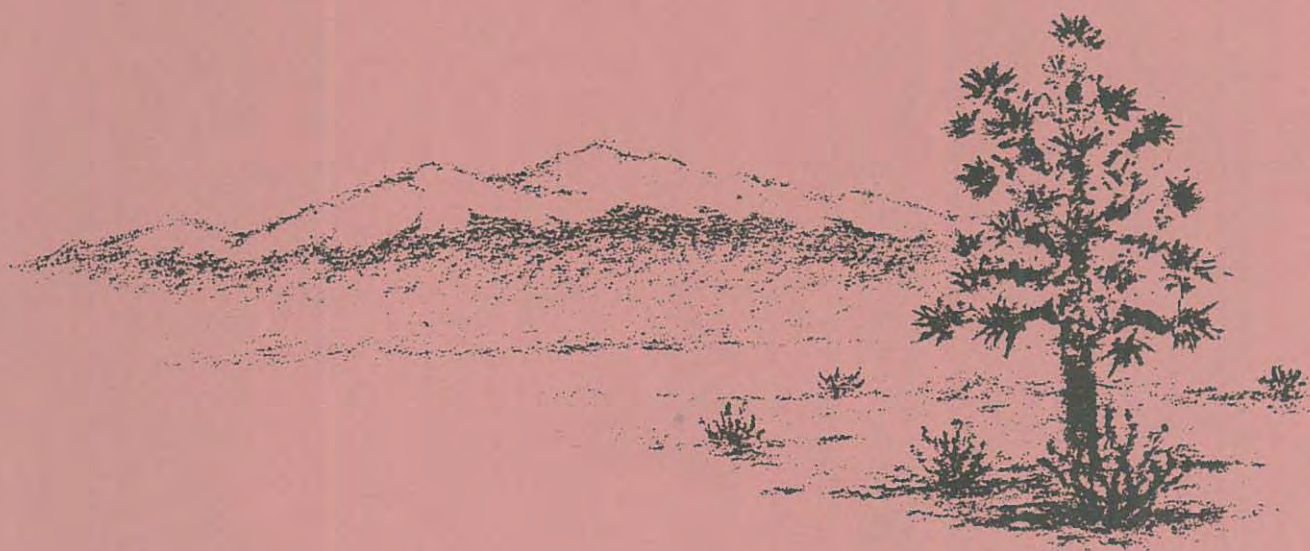


Bureau of Land Management



CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE WILDERNESS STUDY REPORT

Part 2

Overview



1991

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Note to Readers: This Overview is Part 2 of a four-part submission.

- Part 1 is the official Record of Decision signed by the Secretary of the Interior;
- Part 3 is a summary of the National Monuments Expansion recommendations; and
- Part 4 consists of six volumes of the Wilderness Study Reports.

These documents are available for review or distribution from BLM in the following cities:

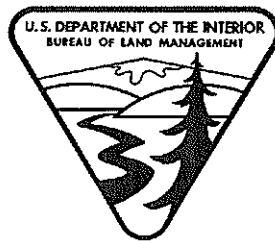
- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| • Washington, DC | • Hollister, CA |
| • Alturas, CA | • Needles, CA |
| • Arcata, CA | • Palm Springs, CA |
| • Bakersfield, CA | • Redding, CA |
| • Barstow, CA | • Ridgecrest, CA |
| • Bishop, CA | • Riverside, CA |
| • Cedarville, CA | • Sacramento, CA |
| • El Centro, CA | • Susanville, CA |
| • Folsom, CA | • Ukiah, CA |

They are also available in other public locations, such as libraries and county offices. For addresses and phone numbers, contact BLM in Sacramento, 2800 Cottage Way, telephone (916) 978-4730 or in Washington, D.C., 1849 C Street, N.W., telephone (202) 208-6064.

In addition, BLM also has other related information available for review or distribution upon request. These include:

- Environmental Impact Statements;
- U.S. Geological Survey and Bureau of Mines mineral reports;
- WSA listings by county and Congressional districts;
- Detailed reports on minerals in the California Desert;
- California Desert Conservation Area Plan and amendments;
- Wilderness maps;
- and other data that may be helpful to reviewers.

BLM-California Wilderness Recommendations

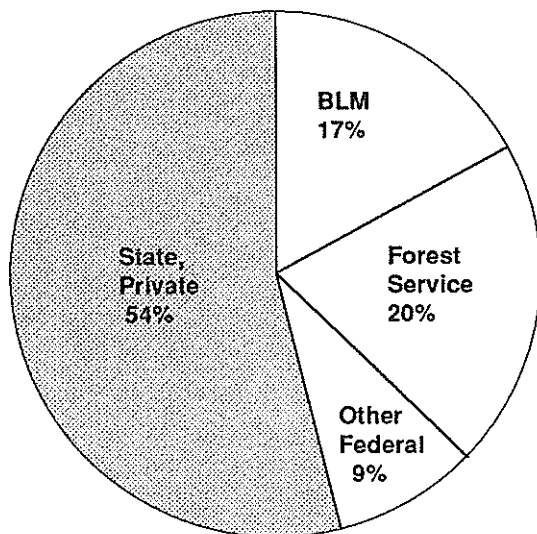


Part 2 Overview

I. EXISTING WILDERNESS AND PARKS/MONUMENTS

To put these studies and potential designations into perspective, it is useful to review Federal ownership in California, particularly Federal lands already designated wilderness or administered as parks and monuments.

Briefly, California covers **101 million acres**, and about 46 million acres are administered in Federal ownership by various agencies. A listing by agency can be found in the Tables section of this Overview.



A. Wilderness

About 5.9 million acres of these Federal lands are designated wilderness, managed by these Federal agencies: Forest Service (USFS), 3.9 million acres; National Park Service (NPS), 2 million acres; Bureau of Land Management (BLM), 14,000 acres; and Fish and Wildlife Service (USF&WS), 150 acres. In addition, the State of California has about 440,000 acres of State lands designated as wilderness. A list of these wilderness areas can be found in the Tables section of this Overview.

In total, California currently has about **6.3 million acres** or about 6 percent of its total lands preserved as wilderness in more than 60 separate units. This is more than any other State except Alaska.

In addition, NPS also has recommendations pending in Congress to designate another 1.9 million acres in Death Valley as wilderness. BLM's recommendations to Congress total 2.3 million acres of wilderness.

The combined total of these pending recommendations is about **4.2 million acres**.

If the BLM and NPS recommendations are enacted by Congress, California would have a total of **10.5 million acres** of designated wilderness, about 10 percent of the State or about 22 percent of the Federal estate.

B. Parks/Monuments

The NPS currently is responsible for managing **4.6 million acres** in California, or about 4 percent of the State. Most of these lands are either National Parks (2 million acres) or National Monuments (2.6 million acres).

If the joint BLM/NPS recommendations to transfer approximately **109,000 acres** from BLM to NPS are enacted by Congress, that percentage would rise slightly. More significantly, four key parcels of land considered by NPS to be important to improving Death Valley and Joshua Tree National Monuments would be transferred from BLM to NPS. Both NPS and BLM feel these lands will improve the manageability of these Monuments' boundaries and combine natural areas and ecosystems now divided by the current agency jurisdictions.

C. Combined Totals

If these proposals are enacted, lands currently preserved as either parks, monuments, or wilderness in California will climb to **11.2 million acres** or 11 percent of California. These would include lands managed by NPS for either parks, monuments, or wilderness, as well as wilderness managed by other Federal and State agencies.

II. SUMMARY OF RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Wilderness Recommendations

Through a detailed inventory, BLM identified 209 areas, covering 7.1 million acres of public lands in California, that possessed the basic characteristics required by Congress for wilderness study. These wilderness study areas (WSAs) are listed later in this Overview and depicted on the accompanying wilderness map. A detailed wilderness study report (WSR) for each of these areas is included in Part 4 of this submission to Congress.

After evaluating each of these 209 WSAs, BLM is recommending that Congress designate **62 areas, covering 2.3 million acres**, as wilderness. Wilderness designation basically means that these areas will be managed to preserve their natural values and generally no commercial activities, no mechanized equipment, no motorized vehicles, and no developments will be allowed.

BLM is recommending that the remaining 4.8 million acres be released from further wilderness study and be managed under BLM's existing land use plans.

Uses specified for these lands may include protective classifications such as Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, intensive recreation uses, commercial activities such as mining or timber production, wildlife habitat management areas, or a number of other uses managed individually or in a balanced combination of activities specified in the land use plan.

These recommendations are based on a step by step process described in detail in Section III of this Overview. Basically, Congress directed BLM to evaluate wilderness characteristics and criteria along with all other resource values identified in the area. This information, along with public comments, was used to determine the areas most suitable for wilderness designation.

BLM concluded that the 62 areas being recommended would complement the existing Federal and State wilderness and significantly expand the National Wilderness Preservation System (NWPS) by adding the highest quality California areas.

B. Monument Expansion Recommendations

In conjunction with NPS, BLM is recommending that approximately 109,000 acres of public land in four separate parcels be added to the Joshua Tree and Death Valley National Monuments in southern California. About 81,865 acres of these additions are also recommended by BLM as suitable for wilderness designation.

These recommendations are the result of a joint, interagency review of the Monuments, along with public involvement, initiated in 1988. The goal of the review was to improve the manageability of the Monuments and place natural areas and ecosystems divided by the current boundaries under a single agency's jurisdiction.

These areas are depicted on maps in Section VII of this Overview. A summary of the study and Environmental Impact Statement supporting this recommendation is included in Part 3 of this submission to Congress.

The four parcels include:

- 1) North Death Valley, covering 79,400 acres on the north end of Death Valley National Monument;
- 2) Pyramid Peak, covering 17,000 acres on the eastern boundary of Death Valley;
- 3) North Greenwater Valley, covering 7,400 acres on the eastern boundary of Death Valley; and
- 4) Pinto Basin, covering 4,800 acres on the southern boundary of Joshua Tree National Monument.

Both BLM and NPS concluded that these additions will enhance the two Monuments significantly, adding lands that will improve the manageability of these areas.

III. WILDERNESS STUDY PROCESS

A. Wilderness Characteristics and Additional Criteria

As directed by Congress, BLM reviewed all public lands in California to determine those possessing the basic wilderness characteristics required for wilderness study. These characteristics, specified in the 1964 Wilderness Act included:

- **Naturalness** — Study areas must be in a generally natural condition;
- **Size** — Study areas must be at least 5,000 acres or large enough to preserve as wilderness;
- **Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive Recreation** — Study areas must have outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation;
- **Special Features** — Study areas may contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, scenic, or historical value.

Based on these characteristics, BLM, with the public's help, identified 209 areas covering 7.1 million acres in California that possessed the basic characteristics for study. These areas were designated WSAs.

Each of the 209 WSAs were then studied, evaluating the quality of the four wilderness characteristics. Additional factors were also considered in determining the wilderness recommendation, including management alternatives, geographical distribution, natural diversity, proximity to population centers, manageability, private or State inholdings, grandfathered uses/valid existing rights, motorized vehicle access, and boundaries.

Short descriptions follow of how these four primary and nine secondary evaluation factors were applied during the BLM study of each of the WSAs.

• **Naturalness**

The WSAs in California range from areas in pristine condition to areas, that while still substantially natural, contain some impacts from man's activities. Certain California WSAs contain intrusions such as vehicle access routes (not roads by definition), old mining scars, fences, pipelines, wells, and various other impacts to wilderness which, while not disqualifying them for study, reduce the overall wilderness quality. Generally, the more natural areas are recommended suitable for wilderness, while WSAs or portions of WSAs with numerous intrusions are not recommended for wilderness.

• **Size**

The size of a particular WSA also affects the wilderness recommendation. Larger wilderness areas generally provide greater capability to absorb impacts from outside sights and sounds. These larger areas often contain more diverse natural features and offer greater opportunities for solitude or primitive and unconfined recreation. In some special cases, these WSAs cover less than 5,000 acres; most range from 5,000 acres up to 450,000 acres.

• **Opportunities for Solitude or Primitive or Unconfined Recreation**

Some WSAs contain outstanding opportunities for both solitude and primitive recreation, while other WSAs possess outstanding qualities for only one of these values. The solitude or primitive recreation values of some WSAs are clearly superior to the values of other WSAs. Size, topography, vegetative cover, and presence of outside sights and sounds were all considered in evaluating the opportunity for solitude and primitive recreation in each WSA.

- **Special Features**

While not legally required for wilderness study, certain supplemental values enhance an area's overall wilderness quality. Examples include habitat for threatened or endangered species; unusual geologic features, such as sand dunes, river canyons, or coastal beaches; and important cultural values, such as historic sites or archeological remains. A WSA possessing special features was more likely to be recommended for wilderness than a WSA without such features.

- **Management Alternatives**

Wilderness designation generally benefits such values as watershed, air quality, wildlife habitat, native plant communities, scenic quality, and cultural and archeological resources.

Some management practices to support these values, however, are constrained by wilderness designation, including the use of vehicles and mechanized equipment for fire-fighting, gathering of wild horses and burros, wildlife survey and monitoring, development and maintenance of management facilities for wildlife, construction of flood control and diversion structures, excavation of archeological sites, and other important activities.

Each WSA was evaluated to determine if wilderness designation was the most appropriate means of protecting resources or if other management alternatives, such as designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern, would result in the highest public and resource benefit.

- **Geographical Distribution**

One of BLM's goals was to complement the existing wilderness in California by adding wilderness areas not broadly represented in the NWPS. The recommendations achieve this goal, by adding areas not widely represented within the NWPS.

This factor is also clearly illustrated by examining the wilderness map contained in this Overview and comparing existing wilderness depicted on the map with BLM's suitable recommendations spread throughout the State.

- **Natural Diversity**

Special effort was made to identify rare or unusual ecosystems or landforms that would expand the diversity currently represented in the NWPS.

Much of the current designated wilderness in California is in the high elevation or forested areas. BLM's recommendations provide the opportunity for Congress to preserve unique desert wilderness, including outstanding examples of the Mojave, Great Basin, and Colorado Desert ecosystems and landforms. Repetitive or common features were not recommended for preservation if better examples were found.

With the objective on quality additions, BLM's recommendations represent the best examples of these ecosystems and landforms.

- **Proximity to Population Centers**

California's burgeoning population, now nearing 30 million, should have the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of wilderness. With this goal in mind, BLM tried to select WSAs close to population centers as suitable for wilderness designation to assure access to as many Californians as possible. Many of these WSAs lie within a day's driving time of California's major population centers.

- **Manageability**

The preservation of wilderness clearly depends on its ability to be preserved in a natural state. This, in turn, depends on a number of factors, including private or State inholdings, grandfathered uses/valid existing rights, motorized vehicle access, and boundary issues. These are explained in more detail in the following sections.

In general, however, BLM used these manageability issues to determine how effectively the potential wilderness area could be managed. This factor is described for each area in the WSRs found in Part 4 of BLM's recommendations.

- **Private and State Inholdings**

As part of the study process, BLM identified all the State or private lands within the WSAs. These are referred to as inholdings. By law, landowners are guaranteed reasonable access to their property.

This access requirement was considered in evaluating the suitability or unsuitability of each WSA. Large amounts of inholdings were sometimes a factor in a nonsuitability recommendation. In areas determined to be suitable for designation, acquisition of key inholdings were recommended where legal access and use would conflict with wilderness management goals. These acquisition needs are specified in each WSR and are listed in the Tables section of this Overview.

- **Grandfathered Uses/
Valid Existing Rights**

By law, valid existing rights must be recognized in both WSAs and designated wilderness areas. Many WSAs contain these rights and uses, which include mining, livestock grazing, and other authorized activities. BLM's recommendations take into account these legal rights and consider their potential impact on wilderness preservation.

In general, valid existing rights were not the determining factor affecting BLM's recommendations except where wilderness values were considered marginal. In WSAs recommended suitable for wilderness designation, valid existing rights may be acquired if they conflict with wilderness management.

- **Motorized Vehicle Access**

Existing physical access routes for motorized vehicles are identified in each WSR. These access routes include washes, unimproved or unmaintained ways, and other primitive routes that did not meet Congress' definition of a road, receiving regular use and maintained by mechanical means. In addition, maintained roads often intrude into WSAs and boundaries were drawn around these so-called "cherry systems." Both these situations can impact wilderness values and manageability, as well as public access. Sometimes these unmaintained access routes provide the only practical and safe means of public access to broad areas of public lands. In other situations, proliferation of "cherry systems" might have a negative effect on wilderness quality. BLM's recommendations weighed all these factors, and balanced the need for public access with the importance of maintaining the integrity of high quality wilderness areas.

- **Boundaries**

BLM's recommendations include wilderness boundaries that are clearly defined by surrounding roads, streams, and other physical features wherever possible. WSAs with many "cherry systems," those in long, narrow configurations, or those with irregular boundaries were often recommended as unsuitable because they would be more vulnerable to outside impacts and would be more difficult to manage effectively as wilderness.

B. U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Bureau of Mines Reports

In the 1976 Federal Land Policy and Management Act directing BLM to conduct wilderness reviews on public lands in California, Congress also directed the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and U.S. Bureau of Mines (BOM) to assess the mineral potential of areas recommended for wilderness designation. These studies were to be in addition to BLM's own evaluation of minerals along with other resource values in WSAs.

The USGS/BOM assessments were completed after BLM's recommendations and should be considered separately by Congress to weigh wilderness recommendations against mineral values. In addition, mineral inventory data are also available from the California Division of Mines and Geology and private industry sources. A comparison of the mineral potential of each WSA known at the time of the study as well as the new USGS/BOM findings are included in the individual WSRs in Part 4 of this report.

The USGS/BOM studies were conducted on what is referred to as the "reconnaissance level." This means the assessments were based on review of published literature, surface and underground geologic mapping and sampling, airborne geophysical surveys, and geochemical studies. No actual drilling programs were conducted because of the prohibitive cost and Congressionally-mandated timeframe. In addition, no USGS-BOM reports were written for areas recommended by BLM as unsuitable for wilderness designation.

Mineral potential was also evaluated by BLM during the study process. In general, BLM evaluated the potential for occurrence of mineral resources regardless of size or grade of deposits. The USGS/BOM reports evaluated the potential of mineral resources of sufficient size or grade to be developed now or in the foreseeable future. This difference sometimes results in variances in the mineral potential evaluations between the USGS/BOM studies and the BLM reports.

It is important to point out that all these mineral evaluations are professional judgments based upon interpretation of available information only. However, all the reports available agree that the Desert is highly mineralized. Consequently, BLM's recommendations reflect the agency's best attempt to balance wilderness values with existing or potential mineral values known at the time the studies were conducted.

C. Environmental Impact Statements

As required by the National Environmental Policy Act, BLM completed an environmental impact statement (EIS) on each of the 16 wilderness studies covering all the WSAs.

These studies, including public involvement, were done over an eight-year span. WSAs were grouped according to geographic proximity or other similarities.

These EISs, and their dates of completion, were:

Alturas	1987
Benton Owens Valley/ Bodie/Coleville	1987
California Desert Plan	1980
Central California	1987
Central California 202	1988
Clear Lake	1986
Eagle Lake/Cedarville	1987
Eastern San Diego County	1986
Eastern San Diego County 202	1988
Eden Valley/Thatcher Ridge	1988
King Range/Chemise Mountain	1988
North Central	1987
Red Mountain	1988
Statewide 202	1988
Western Counties	1987
Yuma	1990

The so-called "202" studies are described in the Special Issues section of this Overview. BLM is also required by the Council on Environmental Quality to identify the "environmentally preferred alternative" in each EIS. The WSRs outline these alternatives.

In total, almost 9,000 public comments were received on these studies. Scoping meetings, open houses, and public hearings were held for each EIS. More details on the public comments received follows in the following Public Involvement section. In addition, the WSRs describe public comments individually by WSA.

The EISs are available for review at BLM offices throughout California and in Washington, D.C. Contact BLM in Sacramento (2800 Cottage Way, 95825) for referral information.

D. Public Involvement

Few land management issues in California have sparked as much controversy as wilderness.

A further complication is the differing public perceptions about what wilderness designation really means.

In all of BLM's studies, there was a wide divergence of public opinion on how much wilderness is needed. These ranged from those wanting very little land designated to those wanting a large percentage of public lands designated as wilderness.

BLM could not satisfy both these extremes; generally, the recommendations reflect a balance between these opposing viewpoints. BLM's public involvement goal was to include all interested individuals and groups in the process.

Public involvement in BLM's wilderness review process began in 1978 with the inventory phase. During this phase, which took approximately 2 years, all public lands in California were inventoried to find areas possessing the basic wilderness characteristics for further study. A tremendous amount of public comments, both written and verbal, along with dozens of workshops and other public contacts, guided this process.

Once the inventories were completed, studies on those areas possessing basic wilderness characteristics were conducted on a more localized basis to determine BLM's recommendations. The largest of these studies was the California Desert Plan, which included not only wilderness studies, but a massive, regional land use plan for the 12.5 million-acre area.

Public participation in the Desert Plan was by far the broadest public involvement effort ever undertaken by BLM.

During the inventory phase, two series of workshops were held, involving some 3,500 people. The draft inventory maps and reports were distributed to over 7,000 addresses. Ten public hearings were also held and public opinion polls were taken to determine public attitudes about wilderness and other issues.

In the Desert, the study phase was incorporated into the overall land use planning process. Through a variety of public involvement techniques, more than 40,000 public comments were received and carefully evaluated. BLM's public comment analysis was audited by the California League of Women Voters to assure objectivity.

All these findings indicated general public support for wilderness, but a range of opinions on how much wilderness was desirable. Concerned individuals and groups were sharply divided over the amount of wilderness needed, which areas were appropriate for designation, and whether inclusion in the NWPS was the best means available to protect wildland and open space values.

In the other study areas, the process was similar, although fewer people participated. Nevertheless, the polarization and controversy on wilderness existed in many of the studies.

In the Susanville area, for the Eagle Lake/Cedarville EIS, a different approach was taken.

A public Technical Review Team (TRT) was established among interested groups to provide the BLM with a consensus on wilderness recommendations.

The team toured the WSAs, held open public discussions, gathered information, and eventually reached unanimous agreement on the 6 WSAs in the study. These recommendations were endorsed by both BLM and the District Advisory Council.

Details on the public involvement efforts in the other 14 wilderness studies throughout the State are included in each of the WSRs and in the EISs available for public review from BLM.

IV. KEY RESOURCE ISSUES AND STUDY CONCLUSIONS

More than 75 separate public issues were identified during BLM's wilderness review process, ranging from site-specific concerns to broader, statewide issues. These issues are analyzed in the 16 EISs and further described in the WSRs.

After consolidating related topics, 10 broad resource issues emerged as being most important to the public. Obviously, some of these generated more public interest and controversy than others, but all were considered important by those participating in the wilderness review process.

A. Wilderness Values

By the very nature of the study's objectives, wilderness values were probably the most significant resource issue raised. California possesses a rich variety of potential wilderness lands. This was evident in the 7.1 million acres that at least minimally qualified for wilderness study.

To many people, the term "wilderness" means any undeveloped land. BLM's challenge was to make sure those participating understood the legal meaning of wilderness, both in terms of quality and criteria for selection, and in terms of what wilderness designation actually means, i.e., no motorized access, no commercial development, etc.

Study conclusions: The best potential wilderness lands would be preserved through wilderness designation of 2.3 million acres. The remaining 4.8 million acres did not meet the suitability standards and would be better managed through BLM's existing land use plans. Most of the 4.8 million acres would retain their existing natural values and open space under current laws and authorities.

B. Mineral and Energy Resources

In general, wilderness preservation and mineral development are "either/or" propositions. Except for valid existing rights, wilderness designation precludes mineral exploration and development.

To make a wise decision, it is important to evaluate both the quality of the wilderness values and the potential for mineral occurrence. Although wilderness values are subjective, they can be seen, documented, and rated as explained in each of the WSRs.

Minerals deposits, however, are not generally visible, and many lie hundreds of feet below the surface. Where exploration and development have delineated and exposed mineral deposits, scientists are able to quantify commodities and their economic values. For most of the WSAs, no precise quantification of mineral values is possible. Without expensive exploration, drilling, and sampling, mineral potential can be only roughly estimated through interpretation of available data.

Scientists point out that mineral potential is often evaluated according to the current demands of our society, with no ability to judge which minerals may become valuable to society tomorrow through technological advances in electronics, transportation, medicine, and other fields.

Perhaps even more difficult than evaluating what we do know about minerals in these WSAs is judging what we don't know. It has been said of minerals that, "The absence of evidence is not evidence of absence." In other words, mining will never occur where mineral deposits do not exist, but mineral deposits may exist where they are not known today.

This dilemma was perhaps best expressed by the late Dr. Vincent McKelvey, former director of the U.S. Geological Survey and a nationally recognized mineral expert:

"Appraising mineral resources is an emerging science. A final, once and for all 'inventory' of any mineral resource is nonsense. Mineral reserves and resources are dynamic quantities and must be constantly appraised. As known deposits are exhausted, unknown deposits are discovered, new extractive technologies and new uses are developed, and new knowledge indicates new areas and new environments which are favorable for mineral exploration."

This challenge of evaluating mineral resources is not merely an academic argument in California. Nearly \$3 billion worth of non-energy minerals (gold, silver, etc.), and more than \$4 billion in energy minerals (oil, gas, geothermal, etc.) are produced annually within the State.

But California is not just a major producer; its 30 million people consume far more energy and mineral products each year than it produces. The public lands administered by BLM are a major source of these valuable commodities.

Nowhere in the State is this issue of the conflict between mineral development and wilderness values more important than the California Desert. The Desert is a highly mineralized area; it is also where most of BLM's WSAs are found (6.3 million acres out of 7.1 million acres). In addition, southern California's 18 million people place heavy demands on the Desert for both recreational access and mineral resources and products. BLM's task was to balance these competing demands and recommend areas for wilderness designation, thereby putting them "off-limits" to future mineral production.

A tremendous amount of geologic data from many sources, including BOM, USGS, the California Division of Mines and Geology, and BLM's own research, was analyzed and interpreted by professional geologists and engineers during the study process. Each WSR contains summary information on minerals in that area; the USGS/BOM reports are available for public review. More general information on minerals in California and in the Desert in particular are available from a number of published references. One brief summary is USGS Circular 1024, "California's Unique Geologic History and Its Role in Mineral Formation, with Emphasis on the Mineral Resources of the California Desert Region," by David A. Dillinger (1989).

Study conclusions: Generally, BLM recommended areas with high known mineral potential and less than outstanding wilderness values as nonsuitable for wilderness preservation. In certain WSAs, however, both high mineral values and outstanding wilderness values were found. In these areas, BLM generally recommended wilderness designation while noting to Congress the known mineral potential that will be foregone.

C. Motorized Vehicle Access

Like minerals, motorized vehicle access and wilderness preservation are "either/or" propositions. Designated wilderness will be available to the public only on foot or horseback.

This restriction was a significant issue during the review process statewide, and was of particular public concern in the Desert, due to the vastness of the area and its extreme temperatures. The Desert is also within a day's driving time of some 18 million people and is the State's most popular area for off-highway vehicle use.

By definition, BLM's WSAs were roadless, meaning they contain no roads within their boundaries that are constructed, maintained by mechanical means, and continuously used for public access, a Congressional definition. However, these WSAs contain thousands of miles of unmaintained routes and ways frequently used by the public for both general access and recreation.

Study conclusions: Frequently used public access routes and their accompanying public activities often severely impacted the quality of WSAs, leading to a nonsuitable recommendation. This resulted in only a small portion of important existing motorized access routes within areas recommended for wilderness designation by BLM. Some displacement to other areas would occur, but the overall impact would be slight. Each WSR identifies the access mileage impacted.

D. Military Use and National Security

The military services currently have exclusive use of some 3 million acres of land in California, but their training activities in support of national security involve not only substantial additional acreage in the State, but also vast amounts of airspace.

These activities were considered significant aspects of the wilderness studies in the California Desert and the Eagle Lake-Cedarville studies.

In the Desert, the major issue was critical military airspace and overflights over the WSAs. Most of the WSAs in the Desert are regularly overflown by military aircraft for research, development, testing, and evaluation of defense weapons. These overflight areas are considered critical to national security because of the availability of fixed ground facilities, ideal weather, suitable terrain, good visibility, lack of conflicts with commercial airspace, distance from population centers, and natural dry lakebeds for emergency landings.

Currently, there are a number of designated military airspace corridors over WSAs, including the R-2508 Airspace Complex, where over 90,000 flights per year are flown. Both supersonic and subsonic flights are involved, with flight altitude minimums of 5,000 feet for supersonic, down to 200 feet for subsonic. The bases using these corridors include China Lake Naval Weapons Center, Chocolate Mountain Gunnery Range, El Toro Marine Air Station, Fort Irwin National Training Center, Miramar Naval Air Station, Tustin Marine Air Station, Twenty-nine Palms Marine Base, Yuma Marine Base, and the Edwards, George, Lemoore, March, and Nellis Air Force Bases.

Another key national security issue in the Desert was the existence of certain important minerals. Four separate government agencies have determined that there are 26 mineral or energy commodities in the Desert classified as "strategic and critical" to the national defense of the United States.

Proximity to military facilities is also an issue in the Eagle Lake-Cedarville wilderness study concerning the Sierra Army Depot. There was concern by the Army and the Lassen County Board of Supervisors about the potential impact of a suitable recommendation for the Skedaddle WSA on the Depot's activities.

Study conclusions: BLM worked closely with the Department of Defense in developing its recommendations to consider present and future national security needs.

Generally, the overflights were not considered to be sufficiently detrimental in themselves to warrant a nonsuitability recommendation for wilderness. Legislative language in the BLM's proposal clearly states that wilder-

ness designation imposes no restriction on military overflights. The legislative proposal also resolved the Sierra Army Depot's concerns by stating that a suitable designation for Skedaddle WSA would not impair the present mission or future growth of the depot.

E. Private and State Inholdings

A quick look at the WSA map at the back of this Overview clearly demonstrates the issue of private and state-owned lands, called inholdings, located within the boundaries of the WSAs. Approximately 490,000 acres of privately owned and 230,000 acres of State-owned lands are found within the 209 WSAs.

The presence of inholdings had two major effects on BLM's wilderness studies. First, large amounts of inholdings often negatively impacted an area's suitability, either because they affected size, opportunities for outstanding solitude or primitive recreation, or long-term manageability.

Second, in areas recommended suitable for wilderness, current law states that BLM must plan for reasonable access for these landowners. Often, this access may be incompatible with wilderness management or prove to be too restrictive to the landowner.

The BLM may acquire these inholdings with the consent of the landowner only when their potential development or use would be incompatible with long-term wilderness management. This policy would also apply to acquisition of mineral rights within wilderness.

Any acquisition of these inholdings would be subject to the land acquisition priorities established by the Department using Administration established criteria.

Study conclusions: BLM recommended as nonsuitable for wilderness designation areas where inholdings had a significant impact on wilderness values or future manageability. In areas recommended suitable despite inholdings, the WSRs clearly identify specific lands that should be acquired to ensure long-term wilderness preservation. These total 62,000 acres of State lands and 69,000 acres of private lands.

Any state land and some private land would be acquired through exchange with administrative processing costs estimated to be \$1.7 million. We estimate that the costs of acquiring any private land that could not be acquired through exchange is approximately \$1.2 million. See Table J for a summary.

F. Recreation Use

Recreation use is one of the fastest growing activities on public lands in California. An estimated 30 million recreation visits involving more than 20 different types of activities take place on the public lands annually and a significant portion of that use occurs in WSAs. This is especially true of WSAs in the Desert.

Some types of recreation are compatible with wilderness and will benefit from wilderness designation. Examples include hiking, horse-back riding, nature study, photography, and camping. Other types of activities are also compatible with wilderness, but the need for motorized vehicle access may limit their availability. Examples include hunting and rock-hounding. Still other types of recreation are not compatible with wilderness. Examples include recreational vehicle camping and off-highway vehicle recreation.

Study conclusions: BLM has carefully balanced its recommendations to provide the public the optimum range of recreation benefits, while protecting areas with high wilderness values.

For example, areas with high wilderness values and popular for recreation activities compatible with wilderness designation were generally recommended suitable for designation. In areas where access was critical, BLM carefully drew wilderness boundaries to allow close access while recommending the core areas as suitable wilderness. Areas heavily used for motorized vehicle activities were generally recommended unsuitable. Finally, consideration was also given to providing some flexibility for future recreational needs, both for activities compatible and noncompatible with wilderness designation.

G. Wildlife and Plant Habitats

The 209 BLM WSAs contain a wide diversity of wildlife habitat and plant values. As explained earlier, one of the factors considered in the study process was special features, such as threatened or endangered plant and animal species, and other habitat considerations. Another factor considered was diversity of natural systems and features, which often includes biological values.

In most cases, wilderness designation can be beneficial to wildlife and plants species. However, the prohibition on motorized access and mechanical equipment does restrict active management of many species, including building artificial support systems, such as water developments for bighorn sheep and other habitat improvements.

Study conclusions: Each WSR was evaluated for its special features, including wildlife habitats and plants. In some areas, the benefits of wilderness protection were weighed against the need for habitat manipulation to help determine the best wilderness recommendation.

H. Utility and Communication Facilities

California's growing urban populations depend on utility lines and communication facilities for their electric, gas, water, communications, and other utilities. Such networks frequently span hundreds of miles and tie to regional and interstate networks. In addition, the need for such facilities grows along with the State's burgeoning populations.

The BLM's land use planning system provides for appropriate and environmentally acceptable locations for current and long-range utility and communications facilities. These land use plans and their identified utility corridors and other planned facilities were fully considered in BLM's wilderness recommendations.

Study conclusions: These planned corridors and facility locations were generally avoided in BLM's suitable recommendations, allowing continued operation and maintenance of existing facilities, as well as future expansion and addition of new facilities.

I. Livestock Grazing

Domestic livestock grazing is important in many public land areas of California. Overall, 58,000 cattle and 89,000 sheep are grazed on the public lands in California each year, generating fees to the public treasury and income to stockmen and ranching communities throughout the State.

WSAs in northeastern California and the East Mojave region of the California Desert have traditionally been part of that use.

Grazing is permitted by law in areas designated as wilderness and existing levels of grazing could be maintained. However, wilderness designation would restrict increased grazing levels, development of new range improvements, and some livestock grazing techniques.

Study conclusions: Grazing use was one of the factors considered in the overall evaluation of wilderness suitability. Generally, BLM's suitable recommendations will have a slight to moderate impact on the affected grazing operations.

J. Timber Harvesting

Although commercial timber harvesting is a significant activity on some public land areas in California, only eight WSAs contain commercial forest lands, totalling 11,500 acres. These commercial forest lands vary from cut-over, brush-covered areas to stands containing good quality commercial timber.

However, steep slopes, lack of access, and extensive brush make intensive management uneconomic on these tracts.

Study conclusions: Since little valuable commercial timber is affected, the economic impacts of the BLM's wilderness recommendations due to timber harvest restrictions will be slight.

V. SPECIAL STUDY ISSUES

A. Section 202 Studies

"Section 202" refers to the part of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act that gives the Secretary of the Interior and BLM the authority to plan for public land uses. This includes studying areas for wilderness designation as a management option or areas that did not have the minimum wilderness characteristics on their own, but only when combined with the contiguous lands of another agency.

BLM's inventory identified 56 areas that qualified for wilderness study through this authority, referred to as Section 202 WSAs.

However, 12 areas were dropped from study through the 1984 California Wilderness Act when the contiguous U. S. Forest Service (USFS) lands were released from further wilderness study.

Generally, Section 202 WSAs were studied in the same manner as other WSAs, except that they were evaluated in the context of the adjoining areas' wilderness values and the managing agency's recommendations.

Of the 44 Section 202 WSAs that are studied in this report, 4 were recommended suitable and considered logical additions to already designated Federal or State wilderness areas. The remaining 40 areas were not recommended for wilderness, either because the managing agency, in all cases the USFS, dropped the area from further wilderness consideration or did not feel the BLM areas made suitable additions due to topography or other factors.

Although BLM has the authority under the Act to drop these nonsuitable areas from further wilderness consideration, they are submitted with these recommendations for Congressional review and concurrence to provide a comprehensive analysis of all BLM wilderness studies in California.

B. Instant Study Areas

In Section 603 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (the BLM's basic authority to study public lands for wilderness), Congress stated that all areas that were being managed by BLM as primitive or natural areas

when the Act was passed (October 21, 1976) would automatically be studied for wilderness. These are referred to as "Instant Study Areas" (ISAs).

There were six such areas in California : Baker Cypress/Lava; Bitterbrush; Chemise Mountain; Negit Island; Piute Cypress; and San Benito. Negit Island has since been transferred to the USFS by Congress. The remaining five and their recommendations are part of this report to Congress. Baker Cypress/Lava ISA is part of the Timbered Crater WSA; Chemise Mountain ISA is part of the larger Chemise Mountain WSA; and the other three are included as separate WSAs.

In 1980, both the Bitterbrush and San Benito Mountain ISAs were studied for their suitability for wilderness designation. These recommendations, along with ISAs in other states, were forwarded to Congress in 1985. However, Congress did not take action on these recommendations. In order to show the complete wilderness situation in California, the recommendations for Bitterbrush and San Benito Mountain are included in this statewide package.

C. Bureau of Land Management/ Forest Service Joint Studies

Two BLM areas in California, Rockhouse (not to be confused with Rockhouse Section 202 WSA CA-010-029) and Benton Range, contiguous to USFS lands in the Inyo and Sequoia National Forests, have been incorporated into wilderness studies underway for those Forests. They are not included as part of this BLM report.

The completed Sequoia National Forest Plan recommends 12,564 acres of the Rockhouse WSA suitable and 23,533 acres non-suitable. The completed Inyo National Forest Plan recommends all 4,052 acres of the Benton Range WSA as nonsuitable. These recommendations will be submitted to Congress by the Forest Service.

D. Arizona BLM WSAs in California

Because of jurisdictional efficiencies and better public service, the Arizona State Office of

the BLM manages some public lands in California, including eight WSAs. A list of these WSAs can be found in the Tables section of this Overview.

These WSAs are bordered by the Colorado River on the east and the California Desert Conservation Area boundary on the west. These recommendations are consistent with the recommendations for the adjacent BLM WSAs managed by BLM's Desert District.

E. California BLM WSAs in Nevada

For the same efficiency/public service reasons, BLM's California State Office manages land in the northwestern part of Nevada, including several WSAs. BLM's Susanville District evaluated 12 such WSAs in the Eagle Lake-Cedarville EIS.

Recommendations for the two WSAs located mostly within California (Five Springs and Skedaddle WSAs) are included with this report.

Recommendations for the other 10 WSAs will be included in the Nevada Statewide wilderness report when it is submitted to Congress.

Three of these 10 WSAs also cross the State line, but are largely located in Nevada. The remaining WSAs are located wholly within Nevada.

F. Mineral Patent for Lands in the Fish Creek WSA

In January 1990, a minerals patent was issued to U.S. Gypsum for 152.51 acres. One hundred seven of these acres were within that portion of the Fish Creek WSA preliminarily recommended for wilderness designation. The area now recommended for wilderness excludes these 107 acres from its western edge. This change was made because once the patent was issued, the BLM could no longer control activities that might impair or destroy wilderness values on the patented parcel. A supplemental statement is included with the wilderness study report explaining the changes in the appropriate sections of this report.

VI. List and Acreages of Wilderness Study Areas

<u>WSA Name</u>	<u>WSA Number</u>	<u>Acres Recommended</u>		<u>County</u>	<u>WSR Volume</u>
		<u>Suitable</u>	<u>Non-Suitable</u>		
Agua Tibia	CA-060-002	344	0	Riverside	2
Amboy Crater	CDCA-304A	0	12,527	San Bernardino	6
Antelope Spring	CDCA-107A	0	1,054	Inyo	3
Avawatz Mountains	CDCA-221	0	101,000	San Bernardino	4
Beauty Mountain	CA-060-020G	0	11,364	Riverside, San Diego	2
Big Butte	CA-050-211	0	2,408	Mendocino, Trinity	2
Big Maria Mountains	CDCA-321	0	66,529	Riverside	6
Big Maria Mtns. North AD.	AZ-050-018	0	495	Riverside	2
Big Maria Mtns. South AD.	AZ-050-019	0	1,431	Riverside	2
Bigelow Cholla Garden	CDCA-290	0	10,105	San Bernardino	6
Bighorn Mountains	CDCA-217	11,068	41,525	San Bernardino	4
Bitterbrush	CA-020-604	0	640	Lassen	N/A
Black Mountain	CDCA-186C	0	8,986	San Bernardino	4
Blackwater Well	CDCA-173	0	7,896	San Bernardino	4
Bodie	CA-010-100	0	16,482	Mono	1
Bodie Mountain	CA-010-099	0	23,934	Mono	1
Bristol/Granite Mtns.	CDCA-256	43,232	64,024	San Bernardino	5
Cady Mountains	CDCA-251	0	77,015	San Bernardino	5
Caliente Mountain	CA-010-042	0	17,590	San Luis Obispo	1
Carrizo Gorge	CA-060-025A	15,408	0	San Diego	3
Carson-Iceberg	NV-030-532	550	0	Alpine	2
Casa Diablo	CA-010-082	0	5,325	Mono	1
Castle Peaks	CDCA-266	43,519	3,824	San Bernardino	5
Cedar Roughs	CA-050-331	0	5,875	Napa	2
Cerro Gordo	CA-010-055	0	14,079	Inyo	1
Cerro Gordo Peak	CDCA-124	0	54,081	Inyo	3
Chemehuevi Mountains	CDCA-310	61,853	0	San Bernardino	6
Chemehuevi Mtns. AD.	AZ-050-003	0	193	San Bernardino	2
Chemehuevi/Needles AD.	AZ-050-004	938	0	San Bernardino	2
Chemise Mountain	CA-050-111	4,143	0	Humboldt, Mendocino	2
Chidago Canyon	CA-010-079	0	19,702	Mono	1
Chuckwalla Mountains	CDCA-348	57,030	88,979	Imperial, Riverside	6
Cima Dome	CDCA-238B	0	20,989	San Bernardino	5
Cinder Cones	CDCA-239	41,701	11,842	San Bernardino	5
Clark Mountain	CDCA-227	0	14,275	San Bernardino	5
Cleghorn Lakes	CDCA-304	0	26,324	San Bernardino	6
Clipper Mountains	CDCA-260	0	43,448	San Bernardino	5
Coso Range	CDCA-131	0	26,486	Inyo	3
Cottonwood Creek	CDCA-104	0	6,466	Inyo	3
Cow Heaven	CDCA-159	0	8,155	Kern	4
Coxcomb Mountains	CDCA-328	52,782	18,211	Riverside, San Bernardino	6
Coyote Mountains	CDCA-373	0	10,954	Imperial	6
Crater Mountain	CA-010-062	0	7,069	Inyo	1
Darwin Falls	CDCA-132A	0	7,438	Inyo	3
Dead Mountains	CDCA-276	0	34,727	San Bernardino	6
Dead Mtns. North AD.	AZ-050-001	0	2,029	San Bernardino	2
Dead Mtns. South AD.	AZ-050-002	0	903	San Bernardino	2
Deer Spring	CDCA-237A	0	2,293	San Bernardino	5
Domeland	CA-010-032	0	2,223	Kern	1

VI. List and Acreages of Wilderness Study Areas (Cont'd)

<u>WSA Name</u>	<u>WSA Number</u>	<u>Acres Recommended</u>		<u>County</u>	<u>WSR Volume</u>
		<u>Suitable</u>	<u>Non-Suitable</u>		
Eagle Mountains	CDCA-334	51,434	7,028	Riverside	6
Eden Valley	CA-050-214	0	6,166	Mendocino	2
Eight-Mile Tank	CDCA-245	0	22,473	San Bernardino	5
El Paso Mountains	CDCA-164	13,986	6,688	Kern	4
Essex	CDCA-288A	0	13,331	San Bernardino	6
Excelsior	CA-010-088	0	9,383	Mono	1
Fish Creek Mountains	CDCA-372	15,359	2,267	Imperial	6
Fish Slough	CA-010-080	0	14,700	Inyo, Mono	1
Five Springs	CA-020-609	0	49,206	Lassen, Washoe	2
Fort Piute	CDCA-267	34,854	11,232	San Bernardino	5
Frog Creek	CDCA-163	0	10,399	Kern	4
Funeral Mountains	CDCA-143	23,004	33,392	Inyo	4
Garcia Mountain	CA-010-012	0	80	San Luis Obispo	1
Golden Valley	CDCA-170	29,113	10,292	San Bernardino	4
Granite Mountain	CA-010-090	0	54,178	Mono	1
Grass Valley	CDCA-173A	0	15,098	San Bernardino	4
Great Falls Basin	CDCA-132	0	6,039	Inyo	3
Greenwater Range	CDCA-147	0	145,454	Inyo	4
Greenwater Valley	CDCA-148	22,811	35,689	Inyo	4
Hauser Mountain	CA-060-027C	0	5,540	San Diego	3
Hollow Hills	CDCA-228	0	29,187	San Bernardino	5
Horse Canyon	CDCA-160	0	4,595	Kern	4
Hunter Mountain	CDCA-123	20,030	6,579	Inyo	3
Ibex Hills	CDCA-149	0	39,111	Inyo	4
Ibex Spring	CDCA-149A	0	2,669	Inyo, San Bernardino	4
Independence Creek	CA-010-057	0	6,458	Inyo	1
Indian Pass (Julian Wash)	CDCA-355	31,493	891	Imperial	6
Inyo Mountains	CDCA-122	58,392	47,843	Inyo	3
Jacumba	CDCA-368	26,128	4,483	Imperial	6
Kelso Dunes	CDCA-250	46,405	110,017	San Bernardino	5
Kelso Mountains	CDCA-249	0	74,992	San Bernardino	5
Kelso Peak	CDCA-160B	0	7,297	Kern	4
King Range	CA-050-112	20,248	13,237	Humboldt	2
Kingston Range	CDCA-222	34,369	248,562	Inyo, San Bernardino	4
Last Chance Mountain	CDCA-112	0	40,254	Inyo	3
Lava	CA-030-203	0	10,770	Shasta	2
Lava Hills	CDCA-258	0	23,141	San Bernardino	5
Little Chuckwalla Mtns.	CDCA-350	0	44,889	Imperial, Riverside	6
Little Lake Canyon	CDCA-157	32,225	819	Inyo	4
Little Picacho Peak	CDCA-356	0	39,547	Imperial	6
Little Picacho Peak AD.	AZ-050-035	0	2,925	Imperial	2
Little Sand Spring	CDCA-119	35,792	0	Inyo	3
Lower Saline Valley	CDCA-117A	2,154	4,264	Inyo	3
Machesna	CA-010-108	0	70	San Luis Obispo	1
Manly Peak	CDCA-137	0	31,754	Inyo	4
Marble Mountains	CDCA-259	0	36,455	San Bernardino	5
Masonic Mountain	CA-010-102	0	6,493	Mono	1
McAfee Creek	CDCA-100	0	438	Mono	3
Magee/Atkins	CDCA-237	0	13,371	San Bernardino	5
Mecca Hills	CDCA-343	7,199	10,976	Riverside	6
Merced River	CA-040-203	0	12,959	Mariposa	1
Mesquite Mountains	CDCA-225	0	50,957	San Bernardino	5
Mesquite Spring	CDCA-251A	0	18,648	San Bernardino	5

VI. List and Acreages of Wilderness Study Areas (Cont'd)

<u>WSA Name</u>	<u>WSA Number</u>	<u>Acres Recommended</u>		<u>County</u>	<u>WSR Volume</u>
		<u>Suitable</u>	<u>Non-Suitable</u>		
Mid Hills	CDCA-264	0	16,979	San Bernardino	5
Middle Park Canyon	CDCA-137A	0	9,538	Inyo	4
Milk Ranch/Case Mtn.	CA-010-023	0	8,970	Tulare	1
Mormon Meadow	CA-010-094	0	7,721	Mono	1
Morongo	CDCA-218	6,410	0	San Bernardino	4
Mount Biedeman	CA-010-095	0	13,069	Mono	1
Newberry Mountains	CDCA-206	20,291	4,078	San Bernardino	4
New York Mountains	CDCA-265	0	43,980	San Bernardino	5
Nopah Range	CDCA-150	79,868	47,051	Inyo	4
North Algodones Dunes	CDCA-360	25,716	940	Imperial	6
North Argus Range	CDCA-132B	0	27,348	Inyo	3
North Coso Range	CDCA-130	0	10,103	Inyo	3
North Death Valley	CDCA-118	0	13,302	Inyo	3
North Mesquite Mountain	CDCA-223	0	28,124	San Bernardino	5
North Tip	CDCA-100A	0	252	Mono	3
N.W. Fishlake Valley	CDCA-102	0	14,737	Mono	3
Old Dad Mountain	CDCA-243	0	57,036	San Bernardino	5
Old Woman Mountains	CDCA-299	0	116,505	San Bernardino	6
Orocopia Mountains	CDCA-344	28,207	22,149	Riverside	6
Owens Peak	CDCA-158	26,113	27,045	Inyo, Kern	4
Owens Peak	CA-010-026	15,897	8,231	Inyo, Kern, Tulare	1
Owlshead Mountains	CDCA-156	121,912	3,427	San Bernardino	4
Pahrump Valley	CDCA-154	0	34,289	Inyo, San Bernardino	4
Palen/McCoy	CDCA-325	75,665	193,252	Riverside	6
Palo Verde Mountains	CDCA-352	0	28,293	Imperial, Riverside	6
Panamint Dunes	CDCA-127	90,626	16,181	Inyo	3
Panoche Hills North	CA-040-301A	0	6,631	Fresno	1
Panoche Hills South	CA-040-301B	0	11,229	Fresno	1
Picacho Peak (Gavilan)	CDCA-355A	5,455	2,179	Imperial	6
Pilot Peak	CDCA-295	0	30,526	San Bernardino	6
Pinnacles	CA-040-303	1,983	3,966	Monterey, San Benito	1
Pinto Basin	CDCA-334A	0	3,604	Riverside	6
Pinto Mountains	CDCA-335	0	31,878	Rvrsde, San Bernardino	6
Piper Mountain	CDCA-115	0	70,793	Inyo	3
Pit River Canyon	CA-020-103	7,443	4,281	Lassen	2
Piute Cypress	CA-010-046	0	3,453	Kern	1
Piute Mountains	CDCA-288	0	20,279	San Bernardino	6
Providence Mountains	CDCA-263	59,681	2,265	San Bernardino	5
Rainbow Wells	CDCA-244	0	21,887	San Bernardino	5
Red Mountain	CDCA-172	0	6,561	San Bernardino	4
Red Mountain	CA-050-132	0	6,244	Mendocino	2
Resting Spring Range	CDCA-145	0	100,960	Inyo	4
Rice Valley	CDCA-322	0	48,133	Riverside	6
Rockhouse	CA-010-029	0	130	Tulare, Inyo	1
Rocky Creek/Cache Creek	CA-050-317	0	33,561	Lake, Yolo	2
Rodman Mountains	CDCA-207	17,630	12,289	San Bernardino	4
Sacatar Meadows	CA-010-027	10,721	6,739	Tulare, Inyo	1
Sacramento Mountains	CDCA-292	0	34,582	San Bernardino	6
Saddle Peak Mountains	CDCA-219	0	9,134	San Bernardino	4
Saline Dunes	CDCA-121	0	6,311	Inyo	3
Saline Valley	CDCA-117	392,643	58,084	Inyo	3
San Benito Mountain	CA-040-309	0	1,500	San Benito	N/A
San Felipe Hills	CA-060-023	0	5,325	San Diego	2
Santa Rosa Mountains	CDCA-341	47,140	276	Riverside	6
San Ysidro Mountain	CA-060-022	0	2,125	San Diego	2

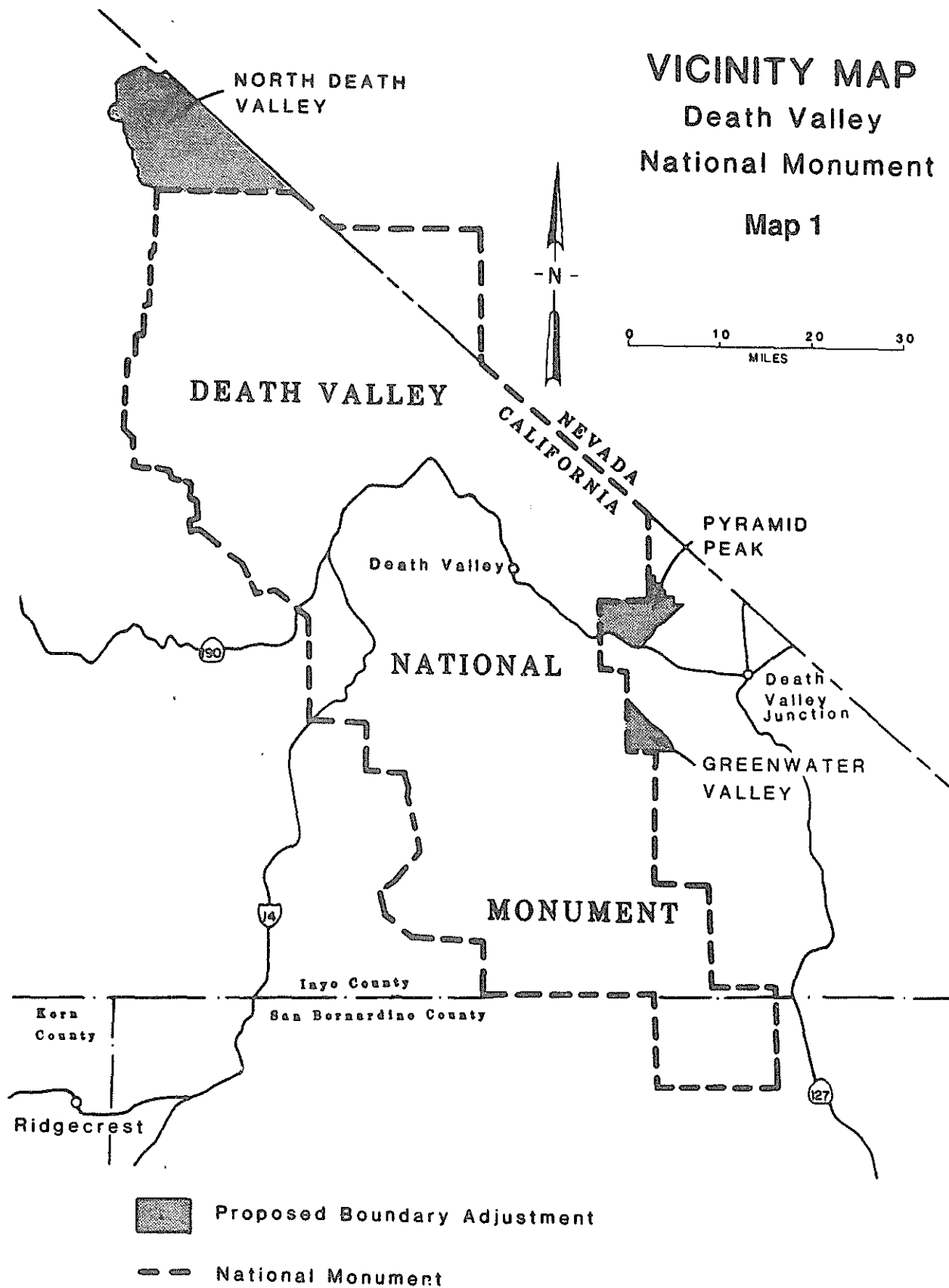
VI. List and Acreages of Wilderness Study Areas (Cont'd)

<u>WSA Name</u>	<u>WSA Number</u>	<u>Acres Recommended</u>		<u>County</u>	<u>WSR Volume</u>
		<u>Suitable</u>	<u>Non-Suitable</u>		
Sawtooth Mountains A	CA-060-024A	0	3,883	San Diego	2
Sawtooth Mountains B	CA-060-024B	22,875	2,916	San Diego	2
Sawtooth Mountains C	CA-060-024C	0	2,454	San Diego	2
Shadow Valley	CDCA-235A	0	9,660	San Bernardino	5
Sheephole/Cadiz	CDCA-305	0	155,069	San Bernardino	6
Sheep Ridge	CA-010-022	0	5,102	Tulare	1
Ship Mountains	CDCA-300	0	24,757	San Bernardino	6
Signal Hill	CDCA-272	0	35,693	San Bernardino	5
Silurian Valley	CDCA-222A	0	18,318	San Bernardino	5
Skedaddle	CA-020-612	37,644	24,366	Lassen, Washoe	2
Skinner Peak	CDCA-160C	0	1,586	Kern	4
Slate Range	CDCA-142	44,536	56,029	Inyo	4
Sleeping Beauty Mnts.	CDCA-252	0	23,282	San Bernardino	5
Slinkard	CA-010-105	0	6,268	Mono, Alpine	1
Soda Mountains	CDCA-242	0	118,537	San Bernardino	5
South Algodones Dunes	CDCA-362	0	51,375	Imperial	6
South Avawatz Mountains	CDCA-221A	0	26,621	San Bernardino	4
South Bristol Mountains	CDCA-258A	0	27,056	San Bernardino	5
South Nopah Range	CDCA-150A	0	5,759	Inyo	4
South Providence Mtns.	CDCA-262	24,238	7,352	San Bernardino	5
South Saddle Peak Mtn.	CDCA-220	0	6,190	San Bernardino	4
South Warner Contiguous	CA-020-708	1,161	3,169	Modoc	2
Southern Inyo	CA-010-056	28,291	8,610	Inyo	1
Southern Olay Mountain	CA-060-029	6,783	1,272	San Diego	3
Stateline	CDCA-225A	0	8,764	San Bernardino	5
Stepladder Mountains	CDCA-294	0	125,754	San Bernardino	6
Surprise Canyon	CDCA-136	0	58,398	Inyo	3
Sylvania Mountains	CDCA-111	0	18,984	Inyo	3
Symmes Creek	CA-010-064	0	7,694	Inyo	1
Table Mountain	CDCA-270	0	8,452	San Bernardino	5
Table Mountain	CA-060-026	0	1,018	San Diego	3
Teutonia Peak	CDCA-238A	0	2,783	San Bernardino	5
Thatcher Ridge	CA-050-212	0	16,918	Mendocino	2
Timbered Crater	CA-030-201	0	17,896	Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou	2
Toler Creek	CDCA-101	0	1,122	Mono	3
Tule Mountain	CA-020-211	0	16,998	Lassen, Modoc	2
Tunnison Mountain	CA-020-311	7,889	11,995	Lassen	2
Turtle Mountains	CDCA-307	116,480	147,792	San Bernardino	6
Valley View	CDCA-237B	0	3,233	San Bernardino	5
Ventana Contiguous	CA-040-308	0	676	Monterey	1
Volcanic Tableland	CA-010-081	0	12,499	Inyo, Mono	1
Walford Springs	CA-010-092	0	12,840	Mono	1
Waucoba Wash	CDCA-120	0	14,115	Inyo	3
Western Olay Mountain	CA-060-028	4,323	1,435	San Diego	3
Whipple Mountains	CDCA-312	72,063	15,270	San Bernardino	6
Whipple Mtns. AD.	AZ-050-010	1,343	120	San Bernardino	2
Whitewater	CDCA-218A	11,169	2,707	San Bernardino, Riverside	4
White Mountain	CDCA-103	0	8,766	Mono, Inyo	3
Wildrose Canyon	CDCA-134	14,079	27,708	Inyo	3
Woods Mountains	CDCA-271	0	44,162	San Bernardino	5
Wyman Creek	CDCA-105	0	7,292	Inyo	3
Yolla Bolly Contiguous	CA-030-501	0	646	Tehama	2
Total		2,263,839	4,823,067		

VICINITY MAP

Death Valley National Monument

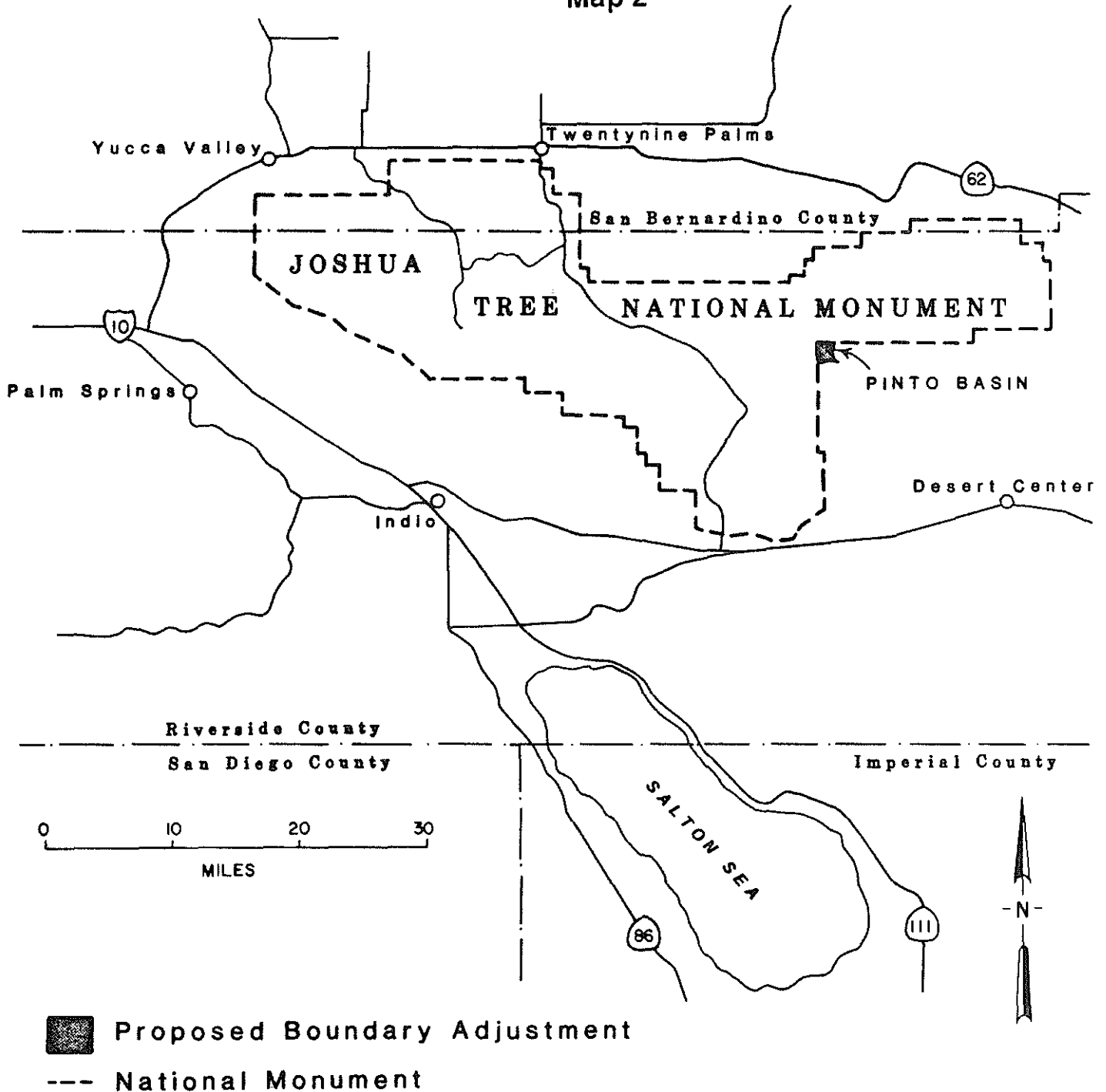
Map 1



VICINITY MAP

Joshua Tree National Monument

Map 2



VIII. TABLES

Table A. FEDERAL LAND OWNERSHIP IN CALIFORNIA
Before and After Enactment of Recommendations

<u>Current Status</u>			<u>Status After Enactment of Recommendations</u>		
<u>Agency</u>	<u>Acres (millions)</u>	<u>Percent of State (100.5 million acres total)</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Acres (millions)</u>	<u>Percent of State (100.5 million acres total)</u>
BLM	17.1	17%	BLM	17.0	17%
USFS	20.4	20%	USFS	20.4	20%
USF&WS	.1	less than 1%	USF&WS	.1	less than 1%
DOD	4.0	4%	DOD	4.0	4%
NPS	4.6	5%	NPS	4.7	5%
Other Fed. Agencies	.3	less than 1%	Other Fed. Agencies	.3	less than 1%
Total	46.5	48%	Total	46.5	48%

Table B. Land Ownership in the California Desert Conservation Area, Before and
After Enactment of Recommendations

<u>Current Status</u>			<u>Status After Enactment of Recommendations</u>		
<u>Ownership/ Management</u>	<u>Acres (millions)</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Ownership/ Management</u>	<u>Acres (millions)</u>	<u>Percent</u>
BLM	12.1	47%	BLM	12.0	47%
Private	6.0	23%	Private	6.0	23%
DOD	3.1	12%	Military	3.1	12%
NPS	2.5	10%	Ntnl. Park Service	2.6	10%
State	.5	2%	State	.5	2%
Other	1.4	6%	Other	1.4	6%
Total	25.6	100%	Total	25.6	100%

Table C. Summary of Wilderness Designations in California Before and After Enactment of Recommendations

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Current Wilderness Acreage</u>	<u>Wilderness Acreage After Enactment of Recommendations</u>
BLM	13,861	2,195,835
NPS	1,990,034	2,071,899
USFS	3,921,218	3,921,218
USF&WS	<u>141</u>	<u>141</u>
Total	5,925,254	8,189,093

Table D. Summary of Wilderness Designation in the California Conservation Area Before and After Enactment of Recommendations

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Current Wilderness Acreage</u>	<u>Wilderness Acreage After Enactment of Recommendations</u>
BLM	0	1,993,990
NPS	429,690	511,555
USFS	0	0
USF&WS	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total	429,690	2,505,545

Table E. List of Designated Wilderness in California

WILDERNESS	AGENCY	ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT	ACRES
Ishi	BLM	Ukiah District	240
Machesna Mountain	BLM	Bakersfield District	120
Santa Lucia	BLM	Bakersfield District	1,733
Trinity Alps	BLM	Ukiah District	4,623
Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel	BLM	Ukiah District	7,145
Agua Tibia	FS	Cleveland National Forest(NF)	15,933
Ansel Adams	FS	Inyo, Sierra NF	230,258
Bucks Lake	FS	Plumas NF	21,000
Caribou	FS	Lassen NF	20,625
Carson-Iceberg	FS	Toiyabe NF	158,628
Castle Crags	FS	Shasta - Trinity NF	8,627
Chanchelulla	FS	Shasta - Trinity NF	8,200
Cucamonga	FS	Angeles, San Bernardino NFs	12,781
Desolation	FS	Eldorado NF	63,475
Dick Smith	FS	Los Padres NF	67,800
Dinkey Lakes	FS	Sierra NF	30,000
Dome Land	FS	Sequoia NF	93,781
Emigrant	FS	Stanislaus NF	112,277
Golden Trout	FS	Inyo, Sequoia NFs	303,511
Granite Chief	FS	Tahoe NF	19,048
Hauser	FS	Cleveland NF	7,547
Hoover	FS	Inyo, Toiyabe NFs	48,601
Ishi	FS	Lassen NF	41,099
Jennie Lakes	FS	Sequoia NF	10,289
John Muir	FS	Inyo, Sierra NFs	580,323
Kaiser	FS	Sierra NF	22,700
Machesna Mountain	FS	Los Padres NF	19,760
Marble Mountain	FS	Klamath NF	241,744
Mokelumne	FS	Eldorado, Stanislaus Toiyabe NFs	98,921
Monarch	FS	Sequoia, Sierra NF	44,896
Mount Shasta	FS	Shasta - Trinity NF	33,845
North Fork	FS	Six Rivers NF	7,999
Pine Creek	FS	Cleveland NF	13,480
Red Buttes	FS	Rogue River NF	16,150
Russian	FS	Klamath NF	12,000
San Gabriel	FS	Angeles NF	36,118
San Gorgonio	FS	San Bernardino NF	56,722
San Jacinto	FS	San Bernardino NF	32,248
San Mateo Canyon	FS	Cleveland NF	38,484
San Rafael	FS	Los Padres NF	150,980
Santa Lucia	FS	Los Padres NF	18,679
Santa Rosa	FS	San Bernardino NF	13,787
Sheep Mountain	FS	Angles, San Bernardino NFs	41,883
Siskiyou	FS	Klamath, Siskiyou Six Rivers NFs	152,680
Snow Mountain	FS	Mendocino NF	36,370
South Sierra	FS	Inyo, Sequoia NFs	82,084

Table E. List of Designated Wilderness in California (Con't)

WILDERNESS	AGENCY	ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT	ACRES
South Warner	FS	Modoc NF	70,614
Thousand Lakes	FS	Lassen NF	16,355
Trinity Alps	FS	Klamath, Shasta, Trinity, Six Rivers NFs	498,141
Ventana	FS	Los Padres NF	164,178
Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel	FS	Mendocino, Trinity, Six Rivers NFs	146,696
Farallon	FWS	Farallon Refuge	141
Joshua Tree	NPS	Joshua Tree NM	429,690
Lassen Volcanic	NPS	Lassen Volcanic NP	78,982
Lava Beds	NPS	Lake Beds NM	28,460
Phillip Burton	NPS	Point Reyes NSS	25,370
Pinnacles	NPS	Pinnacles NM	12,952
Sequoia-Kings Canyon	NPS	Sequoia-Kings Canyon NP	736,980
Yosemite	NPS	Yosemite NP	677,600

Table F. Mining Claims in Wilderness Study Areas

Within Areas Recommended as Suitable			Within Areas Recommended as Nonsuitable		
Lode	Placer	Total	Lode	Placer	Total
2,276	1,439	3,715	9,662	3,351	13,013

Table G. Section 202 Wilderness Study Areas

<u>WSA Name</u>	<u>WSA No.</u>	<u>Acres Rec. Wilderness</u>	<u>Acres Not Rec. Wilderness</u>
Agua Tibia	CA-060-002	344	0
Antelope Spring	CDCA-107A	0	1,054
Big Butte	CA-050-211	0	2,408
Carson-Iceberg	NV-030-531	550	0
Cottonwood Creek	CDCA-104	0	6,466
Deer Spring	CDCA-237A	0	2,293
Domeland	CA-010-032	0	2,223
Garcia Mtn.	CA-010-012	0	80
Horse Canyon	CDCA-160	0	4,595
Ibex Spring	CDCA-149A	0	2,669
Machesna	CA-010-108	0	70
McAfee Creek	CDCA-100	0	438
Milk Ranch/Case Mtn.	CA-010-023	0	8,970
North Tip	CDCA-100A	0	252
Pinto Basin	CDCA-334A	0	3,604
Rockhouse	CA-010-029	0	130
S. Warner Contiguous	CA-020-708	1,161	3,169
San Ysidro Mountain	CA-060-022	0	2,125
Sawtooth Mtn. A	CA-060-024A	0	3,883
Sawtooth Mtn. C	CA-060-024C	0	2,454
Sheep Ridge	CA-010-022	0	5,102
Skinner Peak	CDCA-160C	0	1,586
Table Mtn.	CA-060-026	0	1,018
Teutonia Peak	CDCA-238A	0	2,783
Toler Creek	CDCA-101	0	1,122
Valley View	CDCA-237B	0	3,233
Ventana Contiguous	CA-040-308	0	676
Yolla Bolly Contiguous	CA-030-501	0	646

Table H. California Managed BLM Wilderness Study Areas in Nevada

WSA Name	WSA Number	CA or NV Submissions	Acres Recommended Suitable	Acres Recommended Nonsuitable
Five Springs	CA-020-609	California	0	49,206
Skedaddle	CA-020-612	California	37,644	24,366
Dry Valley Rim	CA-020-615	Nevada	52,400	41,900
Buffalo Hills	CA-020-619	Nevada	0	46,100
Twin Peaks	CA-020-619A	Nevada	54,900	35,900
Wall Canyon	CA-020-805	Nevada	0	46,300
Little High Rock Canyon	CA-020-913	Nevada	17,200	33,800
Yellow Rock Canyon	CA-020-913A	Nevada	0	12,500
High Rock Canyon	CA-020-913B	Nevada	12,000	22,800
E. Fork High Rock Canyon	CA-020-914	Nevada	29,100	23,500
Sheldon Contiguous	CA-020-1012	Nevada	700	23,000
Massacre Rim	CA-020-1013	Nevada	22,500	78,800

Table I. Arizona Managed BLM Wilderness Study Areas Located in California

WSA Name	WSA Number	California	California
		Acres Recommended Suitable	Acres Recommended Nonsuitable
Dead Mtns. Northern Addition	AZ-050-001	0	2,029
Dead Mtns. Southern Addition	AZ-050-002	0	903
Chemehuevi Mtns. Addition	AZ-050-003	0	193
Chemehuevi-Needles Addition	AZ-050-004	938	0
Whipple Mtns. Addition	AZ-050-010	1,343	120
Big Maria Mtns. Northern Add.	AZ-050-018	0	495
Big Maria Mtns. Southern Add.	AZ-050-019	0	1,431
Little Picacho Peak Addition	AZ-050-035	0	2,925

Table J. WSA Inholdings Recommended for Acquisition

<u>WSA Name</u>	<u>WSA Number</u>	<u>Priv. Acres</u>	<u>State Acres</u>	<u>Acquisition Costs</u> ¹	<u>Processing Costs \$</u>
Big Horn Mountains	CDCA-217	365	0	0	4,000
Bristol/Granite Mtns.	CDCA-256	40	1,280	4,000	10,500
Castle Peaks	CDCA-266	80	640	8,000	6,500
Chemehuevi Mountains	CDCA-310	22,920	2,560	266,000	304,500
Chuckwalla Mountains	CDCA-348	110	2,960	11,000	36,500
Cinder Cones	CDCA-239	0	2,280	0	16,000
Coxcomb Mountains	CDCA-328	800	2,460	80,000	58,000
Eagle Mountains	CDCA-334	0	2,530	0	16,000
Fort Piute	CDCA-267	1,280	0	0	6,500
Funeral Mountains	CDCA-143	240	1,200	24,000	18,000
Golden Valley	CDCA-170	100	0	0	2,500
Greenwater Valley	CDCA-148	0	1,360	0	12,000
Hunter Mountain	CDCA-123	0	35	0	0
Indian Pass	CDCA-355	14	640	0	8,000
Jacumba	CDCA-368	974	640	98,200	44,000
Kelso Dunes	CDCA-250	20	3,160	32,000	22,500
King Range	CA-050-112	160	0	785,000	Unknown
Kingston Range	CDCA-222	0	1,480	0	16,000
Little Lake Canyon	CDCA-157	120	0	7,500	7,500
Little Sand Spring	CDCA-119	0	640	0	4,000
Mecca Hills	CDCA-343	200	0	20,000	12,500
Morongo	CDCA-218	1,280	0	192,000	5,000
Newberry Mountains	CDCA-206	6,752	640	144,000	50,000
Nopah Range	CDCA-150	600	3,440	15,000	24,850
North Algodones Dunes	CDCA-360	586	200	58,600	18,000
Orocopia Mountains	CDCA-344	8,994	1,640	825,000	388,700
Owens Peak	CDCA-158	1,055	0	105,000	10,000
Owens Peak	CA-010-026	368	0	0	4,000
Owlshead Mountains	CDCA-156	0	7,520	0	48,000
Palen/McCoy	CDCA-325	930	3,560	157,200	35,500
Panamint Dunes	CDCA-127	0	2,480	0	16,000
Pit River Canyon	CA-020-103	740	0	0	21,700
Providence Mountains	CDCA-263	230	2,800	11,000	40,500
Rodman Mountains	CDCA-207	4,930	640	327,000	35,500
Saline Valley	CDCA-117	0	8,100	0	76,000
Santa Rosa Mountains ²	CDCA-341	11,153	0	4,583,900	131,000
Sawtooth Mountains B	CA-060-024B	1,960	0	980,000	10,000
Skedaddle	CA-020-612	160	0	24,000	2,500
Southern Otoy Mountain ²	CA-060-029	481.1	0	2,641,000	14,000
South Providence Mtns.	CDCA-262	600	1,280	Unknown	39,500
Tunnison Mountain	CA-020-311	80	0	12,000	5,000
Turtle Mountains	CDCA-307	0	3,145	0	20,000
Western Otoy Mountain	CA-060-028	640	0	1,380,000	31,000
Whipple Mountains	CDCA-312	40	3,040	2,000	22,500
Whitewater	CDCA-218A	200	0	20,000	12,500
TOTAL		69,202.1	62,350	12,813,400	1,667,250

¹ This represents the cost to purchase private lands which can not be exchanged. All State and some private lands will be acquired through exchange. In these cases the only cost to the government will be administrative costs of transfer.

² Includes Split Estate Surface/Federal Subsurface.

